

1490 Via Isola  
Monterey, CA 93940  
May 27, 2008

Ms. Delores Brown  
Chief, Office of Environmental Compliance  
Department of Water Resources  
P. O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

Dear Ms. Brown:

I first learned about the Bay Delta Conservation Plan only three weeks ago. Although I own land on Merritt Island, I was never notified of *any* plan that might so radically impact my land and our family. Had I known, I certainly would have attended public meetings.

It is my understanding from reading the proposal, that Merritt Island could be flooded, and returned to a wetland. The project is now at the Environmental Impact Report stage. We have until May 30<sup>th</sup> to submit EIR Scoping Comments. The Scope of the Environmental Impact Report should include:

Under eminent domain:

- Cost of buying land planted in vineyard and other permanent crops
- Cost of buying long-term contracts with wineries, some for as many as twenty years

Decreased habitat for the Swainson's Hawk, an endangered species

Livelihood of residents:

- Bogle Winery, internationally known, first winery in Yolo County
- Vineyards are only means of making a living for many residents - thousands of dollars invested in grapes and drip irrigation

Unique micro-climate for growing grapes:

- Fertile land
- Access to water
- Western breeze that cools grapes

History of Merritt Island:

- Land bought from state as early as 1859 (I'm fifth generation to own my land)
- Some family homes well over a hundred years old

Impact on town of Clarksburg:

- If also flooded, there would be more eminent domain implications
- If not flooded, economic impact of neighboring area under water - a ghost town?
- Impact on local school district - where would students need to be transported?

Please submit the above comments for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Report.

Sincerely,

*Jeanne Turner*

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